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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Christoph CARLHOFF

Confirmation No.: 4495

Application No.: 10/576,735

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Filed: 10/10/2006

Art Unit.: 2176

For: PROCESS FOR KEEPING A TUYERE PASSING THROUGH A METALLURGICAL VESSEL  
FREE OF A SKULL

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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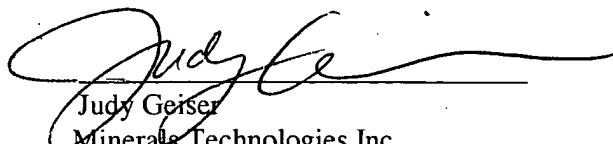
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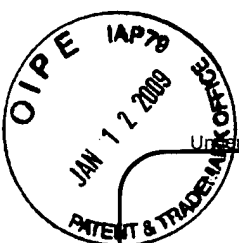
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- Transmittal Form (1 page)
- Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages)
- Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO/SB/08a) (1 page)
- Foreign Patent Documents (80 pages)
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Total pages deposited (including this page): 68 pages

Date: January 8, 2009

  
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**TRANSMITTAL  
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Total Number of Pages in This Submission

85

Application Number

10/576,735

Filing Date

10/10/2006

First Named Inventor

Christoph CARLHOFF

Art Unit

2176

Examiner Name

Not yet assigned

Attorney Docket Number

DN 02-019

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
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<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
<b>Remarks</b>		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm Name	Minerals Technologies Inc.		
Signature	<i>Derek S. Jessen</i>		
Printed name	Derek S. Jessen		
Date	January 8, 2009	Reg. No.	48,213

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below:

Signature	<i>Judy Geiser</i>		
Typed or printed name	Judy Geiser	Date	01-08-2009

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Practitioner's Docket No. 02-019

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Christoph CARLHOFF

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VESSEL FREE OF A SKULL

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In the interest of full disclosure, the following items are herewith identified in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97, and 1.98 for consideration by Examiner. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

**U.S. DOCUMENTS**

U.S. patent documents set forth on the attached PTO form PTO/SB 08a.

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

1. International Patent Publication WO9720954 A1 published June 12, 1997, in English.
2. German Patent No. DE4025909 A1 published July 4, 1991, in German. An English translation is attached.
3. Japanese Patent No. JP62207814 A published September 12, 1987, in Japanese. An

**Practitioner's Docket No. 02-019**

English abstract is enclosed.

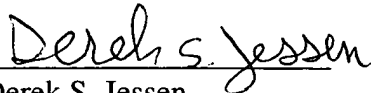
4. European Patent Publication EP0162949 A1 published December 16, 1987, in English.

The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application; within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, whichever event occurs last.

The requirements specified by MPEP 609A(3) and C.F.R. § 1.98 are considered to have been satisfied. No fee is required, however, should payment of a fee be necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayments to USPTO Deposit Account no. 13-3639.

Accordingly, Applicants request that the above information be considered and made of record by the Examiner in the above-referenced patent application and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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